

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

LAWRENCE B. DICKENS,)	
)	
Petitioner,)	
)	
v.)	Civil Action No. 06-790-SLR
)	
RICHARD KEARNEY,)	
Warden, and JOSEPH)	
R. BEAU BIDEN III,)	
Attorney General of)	
the State of Delaware,)	
)	
Respondents.)	

O R D E R

WHEREAS, you have filed a form petition for federal habeas corpus relief pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254; and

WHEREAS, the Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act of 1996 ("AEDPA"), 28 U.S.C. § 2244, effectively precludes petitioners from filing a second or subsequent habeas petition except in the most unusual of circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit has mandated that, before ruling on the merits of a your petition, you must be given notice that the AEDPA applies to your pending petition, see United States v. Miller, 197 F.3d 644 (3d Cir. 1999) and Mason v. Meyers, 208 F.3d 414 (3d Cir. 2000).

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED this 6th day of January, 2007, that, on or before February 26, 2007, you must file the attached election form with the court. Failure to timely return

the completed election form will result in the court's ruling on your pending petition as filed.


United States District Judge

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the State of Delaware,)	
)	
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AEDPA ELECTION FORM

1. _____ I wish the court to rule on my § 2254 petition as currently pending. I realize that the law does not allow me to file successive or later petitions unless I receive certification to do so from the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit; therefore, this petition will be my one opportunity to seek federal habeas corpus relief.

2. _____ I wish to amend my § 2254 petition to include all the grounds I have. I will do so within thirty (30) days. I realize that the law does not allow me to file successive or later petitions unless I receive certification to do so from the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit; therefore, this amended all-inclusive petition will be my one opportunity to seek federal habeas corpus relief.

3. _____ I wish to withdraw my § 2254 petition without prejudice to file one all-inclusive

petition in the future; that is, one that raises all the grounds I have for federal habeas corpus relief. I realize this all-inclusive petition must be filed within the one-year period as defined by 28 U.S.C. § 2244(d). See Swartz v. Meyers, 204 F.3d 417 (3d Cir. 2000).

4. _____ I am not seeking federal habeas corpus relief under § 2254. I am instead seeking relief under _____.

Petitioner